

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-05 INR-10 L-03
ACDA-12 NSAE-00 PA-01 SS-15 SP-02 TRSE-00 SOE-02
AID-05 CEA-01 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-08 DOE-15 H-01
INT-05 OMB-01 OES-07 STR-07 NSCE-00 SSO-00
USIE-00 INRE-00 OIC-02 CEQ-01 EPA-01 CU-04 BIB-01
HA-05 /140 W

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O 301608Z MAR 78

FM USMISSION USNATO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0386

ALL NATO CAPITALS

INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY BERLIN

AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

AMEMBASSY SOFIA

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

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BRUSSELS ALSO FOR USEEC, PARIS ALSO FOR USOECD

E.O.11652: GDS

TAGS: CSCE, EEC, ECE, SENV, ENRG, XH

SUBJECT: CONSULTATIONS WITH ALLIES ON BREZHNEV CONFERENCE
PROPOSALS

REF: STATE 79059

SUMMARY: US ECONAD AND ALTERNATE MADE APPROACHES
REQUESTED REFTTEL ON MARCH 28 AND 29. OUTLINED BELOW ARE
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SPECIFIC COMMENTS FROM CERTAIN DELS. OTHERS MERELY TOOK
NOTE. ALL DELS UNDERTOOK TO REPORT TO CAPITALS AND NONE
WERE AWARE OF ANY CHANGE IN AGREEMENT THAT ALLIES WOULD NOT
SUPPORT A HIGH LEVEL MEETING ON TRANSPORT. IN ADDITION TO
EC COUNCIL ON APRIL 4, THERE WILL BE MEETING OF EC CSCE
EXPERTS IN COPENHAGEN APRIL 3-4 AND DANISH REP WAS SURE US
VIEWS WOULD BE TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT AT THAT GATHERING. END

SUMMARY.

1. ON MARCH 28-29 WE APPROACHED ALLIED NATO DELEGATIONS INDIVIDUALLY TO MAKE POINTS AS APPROPRIATE FOR EACH. ALL UNDERTOOK TO REPORT PROMPTLY TO THEIR CAPITALS. NONE INDICATED THEY KNEW OF ANY CHANGE IN THEIR GOVERNMENT'S NEGATIVE ATTITUDE ON TRANSPORTATION HIGH LEVEL MEETING (HLM)

2. DANISH ECONAD SAID HE HAD RECENTLY SPOKEN WITH WORKING-LEVEL CSCE EXPERT AT MFA IN COPENHAGEN AND RECEIVED IMPRESSION THAT DANISH POSITION PARALLELED CLOSELY THAT OUTLINED IN US NON-PAPER (WHICH WE HAD ALREADY CIRCULATED TO ECONADS ON MARCH 9). HE POINTED OUT THAT IN ADDITION TO APRIL 4 EC COUNCIL DISCUSSION OF GENEVA PLENARY ISSUES, THERE WOULD BE ALSO A MEETING OF CSCE EXPERTS OF THE NINE IN COPENHAGEN ON APRIL 3-4 AT WHICH BREZHNEV PROPOSALS WOULD BE CONSIDERED. HE FELT SURE THE DANISH REP THERE WOULD SEE THAT U.S. VIEWS WERE TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT. A MEMBER OF THE DANISH NATO DELEGATION WILL ATTEND THAT SESSION AND WILL BRIEF NON-9 ALLIES HERE UPON RETURN.

3. U.K. ECONAD TOOK NOTE OF OUR POINTS AND ON ENERGY, EXPLAINED THAT WHILE THE GERMANS HAD FORMERLY FELT A GESTURE IN THIS FIELD WOULD BE HELPFUL VIS-A-VIS THE SOVIETS ON BERLIN ISSUES, THE GERMANS NOW CONFIDENTIAL

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SEEMED CONSIDERABLY LESS INTERESTED IN AN HLM ON THE TOPIC.

4. CONVERSELY, GERMAN REP SOUGHT TO MAKE CLEAR THAT HIS INTERVENTION AT OCT. 23 MEETING OF ECONOMIC COMMITTEE (USNATO 3073) THAT THE "ECONOMIC TOPIC WAS VERY MUCH ALIVE" WAS NOT INTENDED TO IMPLY CURRENT GERMAN FAVORABLE INTEREST IN THE ISSUE, BUT ONLY TO SIGNAL THE FACT THE COMMUNITY HAD NOT YET AGREED ON GUIDELINES FOR THE ECE PLENARY. PERHAPS BECAUSE HE STEMS FROM THE MINISTRY OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS, HIS EXPOSITION OF THE GERMAN ATTITUDE HAD NONE OF THE NUANCES IN BONN 4809, AND HE MADE IT APPEAR THE FRG HAD IN EFFECT ABANDONED ITS SUPPORT FOR MOVEMENT ON AN ENERGY HLM. A RELATED ISSUE, ON WHICH THE GERMAN ATTITUDE WAS STILL OPEN, WAS THE POSSIBLE ESTABLISHMENT OF AN ECE SENIOR ADVISERS GROUP ON ENERGY.

5. BELGIAN AND DUTCH ECONADS SUBSTANTIALLY ECHOED POINTS MADE IN OCTOBER 23 ECONOMIC COMMITTEE DISCUSSION BUT EXPANDED AS FOLLOWS:

----(A) WITH REGARD TO AN ENVIRONMENTAL MEETING,

BELGIUM WAS PERHAPS LESS FAVORABLY DISPOSED THAN THE UNITED STATES. IF SUCH A MEETING WERE TO BE HELD, THE AGENDA SHOULD BE RESTRICTED. BELGIUM OPPOSED HOLDING AN HLM ON ENERGY OR TRANSPORTATION AND DID NOT THINK PROPOSALS FOR THESE TWO MEETINGS WERE WELL ENOUGH DEVELOPED FOR CONSIDERATION AT THIS YEAR'S ECE PLENARY.

----- (B) THE NETHERLANDS HAD LINKED HOLDING OF HIGH LEVEL MEETING WITH SOVIET WILLINGNESS TO AGREE TO SATISFACTORY CONCLUDING DOCUMENT AT BELGRADE. IN VIEW OF RESULTS AT BELGRADE, DUTCH QUESTIONED WHETHER WEST SHOULD MAKE POSITIVE MOVE TOWARDS SOVIETS SO

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SOON IN ECE. DUTCH ALSO THINK WEST, IN DECIDING WHETHER TO HOLD HLM ON ENVIRONMENT, MUST CONSIDER RISK OF SETTING PRECEDENT IN REGARD TO HOLDING HLM ON TRANSPORTATION WHICH THEY VERY MUCH OPPOSE.

DUTCH ARE ALSO NEGATIVE ABOUT ENERGY CONFERENCE. IN GENERAL, HOWEVER, SINCE CONSULTATIONS WITHIN BC-9 WILL CONTINUE, THE DUTCH HAVE NOT TAKEN FINAL POSITIONS ON THEIR TACTICS AT ECE PLENARY. (SUBSEQUENTLY DUTCH ECONAD CONFIRMED HIS MISSION HAD CABLED THE HAGUE WITH REPORT OF OUR APPROACH AND STRONG RECOMMENDATION THAT U.S. VIEWS BE TAKEN FAVORABLY INTO ACCOUNT
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BY GON DURING DISCUSSIONS WITH REST OF THE NINE.)

6. TURKISH ECONAD TOOK OPPORTUNITY TO BRIEF US ON ANKARA'S REACTION TO U.S. NON-PAPER. TURKS DO NOT WANT BELGRADE OUTCOME TO AFFECT ADVERSELY ECE COOPERATION IN FIELDS OF ENVIRONMENT, ENERGY AND TRANSPORTATION. HOWEVER, THEY HAVE NO STRONG FEELINGS REGARDING WHAT FORM SUCH COOPERATION SHOULD TAKE. WITH PARTICULAR REFERENCE TO U.S. POSITIONS ON PROPOSED ENVIRONMENTAL HLM, TURKISH ECONAD SAID THAT TURKEY

--- AGREED THAT HLM SHOULD BE HELD IN GENEVA, BUT
--- THIS SHOULD NOT BE A PRECONDITION FOR HOLDING
--- THE MEETING

--- FELT THAT SPECIFYING AN 18-MONTH PREPARATION PERIOD
--- WAS EXAGGERATED; 12 MONTHS WOULD BE SUFFICIENT
--- COULD AGREE THAT 34TH ECE COMMISSION PLENARY
--- REVIEW PREPARATIONS FOR HLM, BUT REVIEW
--- SHOULD NOT CALL IN QUESTION DECISION TO HOLD
--- MEETING, IF TAKEN AT 33RD PLENARY

--- BELIEVE THAT SENIOR ADVISORS ON ENVIRONMENTAL
--- PROBLEMS SHOULD PREPARE FOR MEETING

--- AGREE THAT HLM BE IN ONE STAGE

--- DOES NOT BELIEVE IT REASONABLE TO CONFINE HLM
--- TO ONE TOPIC, I.E. TRANSBOUNDARY AIR POLLUTION.
--- WHILE TURKS HAVE NOT DECIDED WHAT OTHER TOPICS
--- SHOULD BE PLACE ON AGENDA, THEY THINK LOW-WASTE/
--- NON-WASTE TECHNOLOGY IS A GOOD CANDIDATE.
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7. ICELANDIC ECONAD NOTED THAT HE BELIEVED

GOI WAS LARGELY IN AGREEMENT WITH US VIEWS BUT IN ANY EVENT THEY WOULD HAVE NO PROBLEM IN JOINING AN ALLIED MAJORITY, WHATEVER THAT WAS. WITH RESPECT TO ENERGY HIGH LEVEL MEETING, HE MENTIONED THAT SUBSTANTIAL ICELANDIC DEPENDANCE ON SOVIET PETROLEUM PRODUCTS WOULD SOON DIMINISH CONSIDERABLY. A RECENT ICELANDIC AGREEMENT TO MAKE MAJOR PETROLEUM PURCHASES FROM PORTUGAL WAS AN EFFORT TO COMPENSATE FOR THE CHRONIC ICELANDIC BALANCE OF TRADE SURPLUS WITH LATTER COUNTRY STEMMING FROM COD EXPORTS. TRADE BALANCE WITH SOVIETS WOULD, OF COURSE, ALSO SHIFT IN VIEW OF REDUCED IMPORTS.

8. PORTUGUESE ECONAD BELIEVED THAT HIS GOVERNMENT WOULD BE LARGELY IN AGREEMENT WITH U.S. POSITION. GOP MIGHT, HOWEVER, SEEK TO RISE AGAIN CERTAIN ISSUES AT ECE PLENARY - E.G. MIGRANT WORKERS - WHICH THEY HAD PUSHED UNSUCCESSFULLY AT BELGRADE. BENNETT

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